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Environmental Services Office
Mottman



Consultants in Historic Preservation and Military Architecture

November 29, 2010

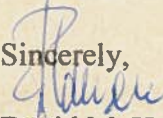
Roger Kiers, Archaeologist
Department of Transportation
Post Office Box 47332
Olympia, WA 98504-7332

Dear Mr. Kiers:

I would like to provide comments on the proposed replacement and possible demolition of the McMillin Bridge in Pierce County, a property listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

By way of background, I have 40 years of experience in the field of historic preservation, including service as the State Historic Preservation Officer. As Chief of the Office (now Department) of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, I oversaw the original survey and inventory of historic bridges in Washington State and the subsequent designation of a number of them to the National Register of Historic Places. At present, I am a consultant in historic preservation and a member of one of the scientific committees formed under the International Council of Monuments and Sites; my duties include the review of future World Heritage Sites.

In considering the comments provided by other consulting parties to the undertaking, I am struck by the potential for the reuse of the McMillin Bridge as well as the opportunity to do so at no significant cost. The absence of those conditions at other locations has resulted in the steady loss of notable bridges in our state. In this instance, however, real opportunities for retention and reuse exist, and it is consistent with the direction of the Legislature in regard to historic properties to take advantage of those circumstances.

Sincerely,


David M. Hansen
Principal

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